WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A device to be attached to a threaded stud, comprising a body having a bore for insertion of a stud, wherein the device has only a single pawl, and, in the absence of a stud in the bore, the pawl extends from an inner wall of the bore in a direction substantially perpendicular to the axis of the bore, wherein the pawl has a flexible thin section connected to the inner wall and a thick section extending from the thin section, wherein the pawl can be bent in opposite directions at the thin section for mounting the device on a stud from two directions, wherein a pair of thread engaging sections are formed at an end of the thick section, one or the other engaging section being disposed for entering a space between crests of threads of a stud depending on the direction of insertion of the stud in the bore.
- 2. The device according to claim 1, wherein a pair of grooves are formed adjacent to corresponding engaging sections of the pawl, each groove being disposed for receiving a crest of a thread adjacent to the space between crests.

- 3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the length of the thick section of the pawl is substantially greater than the distance between the inner wall and a stud inserted in the bore, and wherein after insertion of a stud in the bore, the pawl forms an angle substantially less than 90° from the centerline of the pawl before insertion of a stud.
- 4. The device according to claim 1, wherein a tip of each engaging section is arcuate so as to conform to the curvature of the threads.
- 5. The device according to claim 2, wherein each groove is arcuate so as to conform to the curvature of the threads.
- 6. A device to be attached to a threaded stud, comprising a body having a bore for insertion of a stud, and having only a single pawl in the bore, wherein the pawl is connected by a hinge to a first inner wall of the bore, wherein the pawl has a centerline extending in a first direction substantially perpendicular to the axis of the

bore before insertion of a stud in the bore and forming an angle of substantially less than 90° with respect to the first direction after insertion of the stud in the bore, and wherein the pawl has a thread engaging section that enters a space between successive crests of threads of a stud and has an adjacent groove that receives one of the crests of the thread, and wherein a second inner wall of the bore is constructed to minimize lateral movement of the stud in the first direction, and in a direction orthogonal to the first direction.

- 7. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the second inner wall of the bore is dimensioned to closely surround a major portion of the circumference of the stud.
- 8. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the engaging section and the groove are formed on a section of the pawl substantially thicker than a section of the pawl forming the hinge.
- 9. A device according to Claim 8, wherein there are a pair of the engaging sections and a pair of the grooves at

opposite sides of the thicker section of the pawl, whereby an engaging section and a groove can engage threads of the stud irrespective of the direction of insertion of a stud into the bore.

- 10. A device according to Claim 9, wherein tips of the engaging sections and the grooves are arcuate to conform to the curvature of the threads of the stud.
- 11. A device according to Claim 6, wherein a stud is disposed in the bore.
- 12. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the body includes a component mounting section for holding a component.
- 13. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the body includes a component mounting section for holding a component.